

No. 41 October 12, 1981

BEIJING REVIEW

北京周報

A CHINESE WEEKLY
OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

- Worker Education in China
- The Truth About Sino-Vietnamese Relations
- *Conflicting Interests Within CMEA*



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Sino-Vietnamese Relations

First instalment of an authoritative article on Sino-Vietnamese relations gives an all-round historical review. Future issues will present facts about the current dispute and its background (pp. 15-18).

Workers' Education

Our correspondent reports on different forms of workers' education in the port city of Dalian. This endeavour to upgrade China's technical work force is gaining importance in national construction (pp. 19-25).

The Baoshan Steel Complex

After much controversy, the giant Baoshan Iron and Steel Complex in Shanghai will continue construction (p. 6).

Mediation Committees

A post-liberation creation, the mediation committees are effectively settling day-to-day petty disputes in cities and countryside (p. 8).

Equality Before the Law

Discussions among Chinese jurists about the meaning of "everybody is equal before the law" (p. 26).

Sino-Indian Boundary Question

Groundless allegations about Chinese occupation of Indian territory will not improve relations prior to the forthcoming bilateral meeting (p. 10).

Cracks in CMEA

Tensions in the Council for Economic Assistance because of conflicting economic interests

between Moscow and its East European junior partners (p. 13).

The AWACS Deal

Arab people are going to judge the Reagan administration on the outcome of the projected AWACS deal (p. 11).

Man With Half a Brain

A 31-year-old whose right cerebrum was removed 15 years ago is getting along fine (p. 28).



A woman student of the workers' spare-time college.
Woodcut by Wu Kongchun

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The 6th Five-Year Plan

How about China's Sixth Five-Year Plan? What will be its main features?

The general guiding principle of China's Sixth Five-Year Plan (1981-85), which is being worked out, is to stress economic results rather than speed, so as to lay a solid foundation for economic development in the future.

These five years will be a period in which efforts will be made to bring about a fundamental turn for the better in the national economy. The principle of readjustment, restructuring, consolidation and improvement will still be followed so that industrial structure will be rationalized. Considerable changes will be made in the product mix and it is expected that technical transformation will give the enterprises a new look. Apart from this, an appropriate scale of development will be maintained for the energy industry, transport and communications. At

the same time, some necessary reforms will be introduced.

The national economy will develop at a certain speed during the period of readjustment, and the annual average in the next five years will be higher than at present. But the speed must not be too high, because it may give rise to new imbalances in the national economy. On the other hand, if it is too slow, the economy may stagnate and it will not be able to accumulate strength for further advances.

This guiding principle has corrected our past mistakes in the strategy for economic development and changed the situation of giving undue stress to speed and the concomitant tendency of high quotas, high accumulation rate, low consumption and poor economic results. In the future, the speed of increase should be sustained and stable, and the aim is to achieve better economic results so that the national economy will develop at a steady pace.

— Economic Editor Jin Qi

able-bodied peasant. With the introduction of the system of responsibility in agricultural production, surplus labour in the countryside is expected to be as high as 50 per cent. To solve this question, we have adopted the policy of developing a diversified economy, bringing about an all-round development of agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, sideline occupations and fishery, setting up joint enterprises combining agriculture, industry and commerce, and promoting the service trades and cultural and educational undertakings in the rural areas. All this helps solve the question of surplus labour and is at the same time conducive to the accumulation of funds. In the future, when only 20 to 30 per cent of the labour force will work on the farmland, favourable conditions will be created for the mechanization of farm work.

It can be seen, therefore, that mechanization of agriculture in China should go hand in hand with diverting a large amount of surplus labour from the farmland and should be carried out in a planned way.

— Economic Editor
Wang Dacheng

Mechanization of Agriculture

Do you have any plan for the mechanization of farm work? How would you solve the question of surplus labour if farm work is mechanized?

We planned to achieve the mechanization of agriculture by 1980, but this is not feasible. At present, investigations and study are being made, and various suggestions have been put forward.

Farm mechanization in China depends firstly on the development of the peasants' economic strength and their purchasing power, and secondly on the extent to which labour force can be shifted from the farmland.

China has about 100 million hectares of farmland and a labour force of 300 million in the rural areas. This means only one-third of a hectare for each



LETTERS

Economic Reforms

A few months ago I was very disillusioned because of changes in the economic field. But now I think I've come to a more realistic assessment of your economic reforms. I believe they are necessary if you in China want to catch up with the losses incurred during the "cultural revolution."

I would like to know just two things: (1) How do you prevent the staff and workers of the enterprises from only thinking of their own factories and their own bonuses, now that you have given the enterprises greater power to manage their own business affairs? (2) How do you prevent the peasants from developing a petty-bourgeois way of thinking in those areas where the production responsibility lies in the hands of the families and single persons? I hope you will answer in a special article because I think a lot of people have the same questions.

Last but not least: I'm impressed by the "resolution" from the Sixth Plenum of the 11th CPC Central Committee. It deals in a dialectical way with a lot of important items.

Hans Chr. Petersen
Brabrand, Denmark

Thank you very much for your concern about China's economic reforms. Just as you have said, there are other readers who have doubts about the reforms. This can be understood. In order to guard against staff members, workers and peasants only seeking the interest of individuals or small groups, it is important to strengthen political and ideological education during our economic reforms. A basic component of political and ideological education is to persuade people to handle correctly the relations between the state, the collective and the individual, foster communist ethics and rectify unhealthy tendencies. In addition, economic laws and regulations should be adopted so as to deal with acts encroaching upon the interest of the state and the collective.
— Ed.

A Typo Mistake

I read with great interest "On the Questions of Party History" (issue No. 27), a resolution adopted by the Sixth Plenary Session of the 11th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on June 27, 1981. This historical document has greatly helped me know the actual situation of China and the policies of the Chinese Communist Party.

In this regard, I want to draw your attention to a mistake in the resolution. In Point No. 35 (4) on page 37, the following words are written: "... that methods other than class struggle must be used for their appropriate revolution." I think, the word "revolution" is wrong and it may be a printing mistake, and it should be "resolution."

Masa Shrestha
Kathmandu, Nepal

Thank you very much for pointing out a typo mistake. That word should be "resolution." — Ed.

Legal Adviser

My greatest satisfaction has come from your series of articles on legal matters which appeared in issues Nos. 8, 11, 13 and 14 and related brief information in many other issues. I must say that my interest results from my profession. I am a lawyer. If I can give you some suggestions, you should insert more texts of legal documents, wholly or in part, particularly those dealing with economic activities.

I was shaken by the article "Trends in Chinese Jurisprudence" (issue No. 14, 1981), which presents some former trends in Chinese legal theory. The treatment of legal science was characterized by a kind of voluntarism. It is quite impossible to separate legal science from the social sciences. The creation of a pure theory of law separated from other social phenomena is useless. For the law, whether it is treated as an instrument of class struggle or not, is only a measure to realize state policy and protect the social system. I agree that the study of law should concentrate primarily on the legal system, but in context of the specific state system and social conditions.

With reference to the theory of constitution of crimes and the

presumption of innocence, one should take into consideration that in the contemporary world, both in capitalist and socialist countries, the law, especially penal law, plays a similar role.

Notwithstanding these general remarks, I am glad that the law in China is increasingly appreciated. This can be shown by the increase of legal advisers in Beijing. I hope you print more articles on this subject.

Janusz Pasierbski
Szczecin, Poland

"Notes From the Editors"

"Notes From the Editors" is a major improvement. While I do not always agree with its position, that is not the point. It slices through the verbiage in which issues are occasionally drowned and serves a valuable role by providing statements about controversial or perplexing issues.

Frederic Grant Jr.
Brookline, Mass., USA

I welcome the developments in *Beijing Review*. "Notes From the Editors" seems to be a good way of putting controversial questions squarely on the table in a helpful and non-dogmatic manner.

D.C. Burford
London, UK

I find "Notes From the Editors" quite informative. However, I think one can dwell into the problem deeper if it could be organized into an editorial statement, instead of your present question and answer format. I see no reason why the magazine should not contain an editorial.

Peter P. Yuen
Xianggang (Hongkong)

On Book Reviews

I am often annoyed by your book reviews because they do not indicate whether the books are available in foreign editions, where they can be purchased and what cost. For those books which cannot be obtained abroad, the address of the publishing house should be provided so readers can write directly to the publishing house.

Steffen Hadamowsky
Biberach, Riss, W. Germany

POLITICAL

Chairman Ye's Statement Wins Nationwide Support

Chairman Ye Jianying's nine-point statement on September 30 concerning the return of Taiwan to the motherland and the realization of China's peaceful reunification (see issue No. 40 for full text) has received warm responses from the people of all walks of life in the country. Leading members of various mass organizations and democratic parties as well as noted personages have expressed their wholehearted support.

Eleven Vice-Chairmen of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference held a discussion meeting and expressed unanimous support for Chairman Ye's statement. They pledged to do their utmost for the return of Taiwan to the motherland and the realization of peaceful reunification of the country.

Vice-Chairman Rong Yiren, who was formerly an industrial capitalist, said that our motherland is rich in natural resources and has boundless prospects for future development. Industrialists and businessmen in Taiwan are welcome to invest and engage in various economic undertakings on the mainland. This will benefit the economic development of the whole country, the economy in Taiwan included.

Hua Luogeng, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of China Democratic League, said that the Chinese nation has a

history of several thousand years, characterized by unity and unification, and division can never last long. He expressed the hope that the Kuomintang authorities in Taiwan will hold negotiations with the Chinese Communist Party as early as possible so that the two parties will co-operate for the third time.

Ji Fang, Chairman of the Chinese Peasants' and Workers' Democratic Party and a participant of the 1911 Revolution who witnessed the whole history of co-operation and split between the Kuomintang and the Chinese Communist Party, pointed out that co-operation is in the basic interest of the country and nation. The first co-operation between the two parties in 1924 ensured the victory of the Northern Expedition. The Chinese Communist Party initiated the second co-operation in 1937, thereby guaranteeing the victory of the War of Resistance Against Japan (1937-45). Now it's high

time that the Chinese Communist Party and the Kuomintang carried out their third co-operation.

An enlarged meeting of the standing committee members of the general headquarters of the Taiwan Democratic Self-Government League adopted a resolution which said that the Chinese Communist Party's proposal for negotiations with the Kuomintang on a reciprocal basis is reasonable and that the Kuomintang has no reason whatsoever to reject it. The resolution expressed the hope that compatriots in Taiwan will give full play to their patriotism and work for the realization of negotiations between the two parties and the exchange of mails, trade, air and shipping services, and visits by relatives and tourists.

Huang Wei, former commander of the 12th army corps of the Kuomintang and now a standing

Deng Xiaoping on Return of Taiwan

DENG Xiaoping, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, dealt with the question of the return of Taiwan to the motherland when he met with Nilde Jotti, President of the Chamber of Deputies of Italy on October 2.

Deng said: "The Taiwan question has always been a vital issue for us. It is an issue that concerns the reunification of the motherland. Chairman Ye Jianying's recent nine-point proposal concerning the return of Taiwan to the motherland for the realization of China's peaceful reunification is a fair and reasonable policy we have advanced on the basis of the present actual situation. The proposal has won favourable responses internationally and will surely win the support of the Taiwan compatriots. I think the nine-point proposal is acceptable to the Taiwan authorities."

committee member of the Fifth National Committee of the CPPCC, said that he had worked together with Chiang Kai-shek for more than 20 years and personally witnessed the two co-operations between the Kuomintang and the Chinese Communist Party. He expressed the wish that Chiang Ching-kuo would take the interest of the nation into consideration and do as Dr. Sun Yat-sen had enjoined, that is, give top priority to the interests of the whole people and spare no effort to accomplish the great cause of peaceful reunification of the motherland. Only thus can we win the respect of the people, he stressed.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mourning Death of President Sadat

Chairman Ye Jianying and Premier Zhao Ziyang sent a message on October 7 to Soufi Abu Taleb, Acting President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, and Vice-President Mohammed Hosny Mubarak, mourning the death of President Anwar Sadat.

The message extended, on behalf of the Chinese Government and people and in their own name, profound condolences to the Egyptian Government and people and deep sympathy to the bereaved family. It said: "In his lifetime President Mohammed Anwar el-Sadat worked steadfastly to safeguard state sovereignty, develop the national economy and oppose big-power hegemonism. His passing is a tremendous loss to the Egyptian people. We believe that the Egyptian people will turn their grief into strength, enhance their national unity

and solidarity with the other Arab countries and continue their efforts to safeguard the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Egypt, combat the aggression and subversive activities of all external forces and accomplish the just cause of the Arab nation."

ECONOMIC

First Stage of Baoshan Project to Continue

Construction of the first stage project of the Baoshan Iron and Steel Complex on the outskirts of Shanghai, which has been the subject of controversy, will now continue.

Baoshan is the largest imported project to date, and the general contractor is the Nippon Steel Corporation. The first contract for this complex was signed in April 1978, and it was planned that construction would be carried out in two stages. Upon the completion of the first stage, the complex would have an annual capacity of 3 million tons of steel, and with the completion of the whole project, it would be able to produce 6 million tons of steel and roll them into high-quality steel strips and tubes which are in short supply in China's economic construction.

During the period of readjusting the national economy, funds have to be used where they are most needed. This has prompted some economic experts and scholars at home to put forward various suggestions concerning this project which requires a huge investment, and responsible economic departments have thoroughly discussed the Baoshan project in which a large investment has already been made.

After weighing the advantages and disadvantages, departments concerned under the State Council decided recently to carry on with the construction of the first stage of the project. Meanwhile, the China National Technical Import Corporation and the Japanese companies involved have agreed to terminate the contracts for the supply of part of the equipment for the second stage. For this, the Chinese side will pay compensations to the Japanese contractors for the losses and expenses already incurred.

Some readjustments on the construction of the Baoshan project will be made and the completion of the first stage of work, originally set for 1982, will be postponed.

Building of the Baoshan project started towards the end of 1978. About 40 per cent of the installation work for the first stage have now been completed. Construction of a 113-metre-high

The 113-metre-high blast furnace under construction.



blast furnace is nearing completion, and the building of auxiliary projects are in full swing. One of the two 350,000-kilowatt thermal power generating units has been installed and is scheduled to go into operation next spring, while the other unit is being installed. Thanks to the joint efforts of responsible members of the engineering headquarters, technicians and workers, all the work done is up to the required standard.

Agricultural Resources Survey

About 70 per cent of China's 2,000 counties are carrying out surveys and zoning of agricultural resources on the basis of the work done at the provincial level.

The survey covers the distribution of crops, forests, grasslands, soil, climate, water resources and other biological resources. The aim is to provide scientific data for the development of agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, sideline occupations and fishery.

The work began in 1979 on a nationwide scale under the sponsorship of the State Agricultural Commission and with the participation of scientific and technical personnel. To date 22 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions have worked out the zoning of agricultural resources at the provincial level. Surveys being made at the county level will provide reliable data for putting the programmes into practice.

Zoning of agricultural resources in Hetian County of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region has yielded initial results. Though the county's acreage last

year for wheat and late maize was reduced so as to grow lucerne and other industrial crops on a larger area, the output of grain increased by 3,000 tons over that of 1979, and the output of cotton and oil-bearing crops also increased by 54 and 41.7 per cent respectively. By moving young animals to pastures on the plain to check the degeneration of grasslands on the mountains resulting from the over-population of cattle there, the county has increased its livestock to 440,000 head in the first half of this year, which was an all-time high.

Diverting Huanghe River Water to Tianjin

A project has been worked out to divert the water of the Huanghe (Yellow) River to Tianjin, to help solve the water shortage there in the coming winter and next spring. Tianjin is an important industrial centre in north China with a population of 3 million.

Under this plan, 340 million cubic metres of water from the Huanghe River will be channelled to Tianjin for the urban population's daily consumption, for industrial use and for irrigation of truck gardens on the outskirts.

The water level of the Miyun Reservoir, which provides water for Tianjin, has dropped drastically because of severe drought for two years running. There has been practically no rainfall upstream of the reservoir this year, and although 30 to 60 mm. of rain fell downstream of the reservoir in July-August, most of this was absorbed by the parched fields and only a small amount of water has flowed into

the Haihe River and is now being utilized in Tianjin.

The project to divert the water of the Huanghe was decided at a recent emergency meeting on water supply for Beijing and Tianjin convened by the State Council.

According to the plan, water will after the autumn harvest be diverted from the lower reaches of the Huanghe River at three points in Henan and Shandong Provinces to the ancient Grand Canal and then flow to Tianjin.

It is planned that on October 15 water will begin flowing through the 850-kilometre-long People's Victory Irrigation Canal in Henan Province and reach Tianjin in early November. Two irrigation canals in Shandong Province, 600 and 480 kilometres long respectively, will first be widened and dredged before water is diverted there in December. Water will be diverted through these three canals for 100 days.

Water from the Huanghe was successfully brought to Tianjin on three occasions between 1972 and 1975. To ensure that there will be no snags this time, the Ministry of Water Conservancy has made arrangements with Henan, Shandong and Hebei Provinces to mobilize a large number of peasants to widen the canals and dredge the northern section of the Grand Canal after the autumn harvest. The state will allocate special funds to the three provinces for this purpose.

Another major project to help solve the water shortage in Tianjin is to channel water to the city from Hebei Province's Panjiakou Reservoir, which is on the Luanhe River and has a

storage capacity of 2,900 million cubic metres. The construction of this reservoir has been basically completed. The State Council has decided to appropriate additional funds to speed up the building of a 135-kilometre-long canal which will bring the water to Tianjin. By 1984 water supply in Tianjin will be greatly improved.

Economic Briefs

- A 949.8-kilometre-long highway, the longest of its kind on the loess plateau, was recently completed and opened to traffic. Work on this highway started nine years ago. Running from Yichuan County in Shaanxi Province to Yongjing County west of Lanzhou, capital of Gansu Province, it links up Shaanxi and Gansu Provinces and the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region. It spans the Yellow River and has more than 100 bridges and four medium-sized tunnels.

- A large open-cast mine with an annual designed capacity of 1.2 million tons has gone into operation in the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region. Situated 50 kilometres southeast

of the Wuhai city, the mine has 78.8 million tons of recoverable coal reserves, most of which being good coking coal.

- China's first 100,000-ton-class slip dock has been built at the Dalian Shipyard in north-east China's Liaoning Province. The dock is 307.45 metres long and 50 metres wide.

- *Changcheng*, a 27,000-ton bulk freighter built by the Dalian Shipyard for the Regent Shipping Limited in Xianggang (Hongkong), was recently launched. According to the contract, the vessel must pass the examination by a surveyor of Lloyd's and the representatives of the ship owner before launching.

- A colour TV assembly line with an annual production capacity of 150,000 sets, the biggest in the Chinese capital, went into operation recently at the Beijing TV Factory. The major equipment of the assembly line was built by the National Electric Company Ltd. of Japan, supplemented by auxiliary equipment made in China. It produces 14-inch and 20-inch colour TV sets.

SOCIAL

Mediation Committees

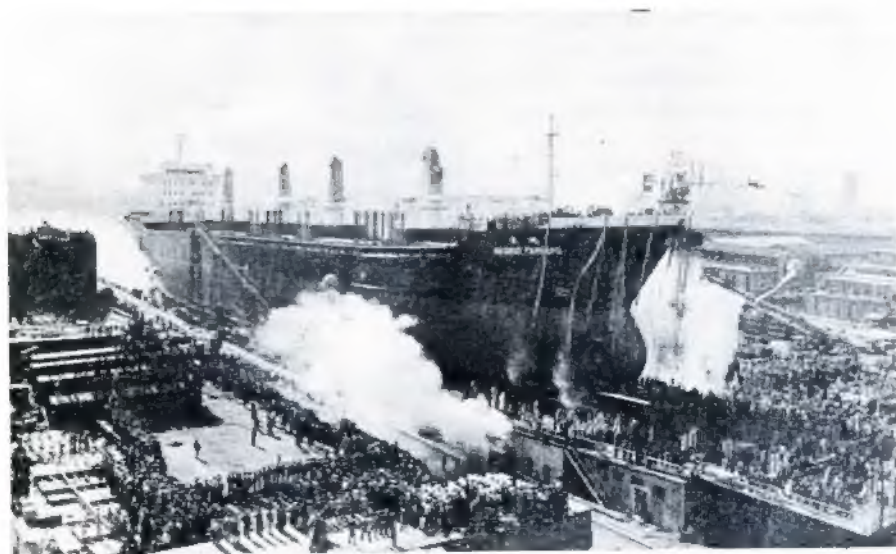
"Even an upright official finds it difficult to settle a family quarrel." This is a common saying in China.

Conflicts among the people are usually disputes in a family or between neighbours. They are either civil or, at most, minor criminal cases. As they involve petty day-to-day matters, it is very hard even for an upright judge or lawyer to decide which party is right or wrong.

However, those who live among the people can act as mediators and settle such disputes in a satisfactory way, for they are often well acquainted with the background and minor details of the disagreement, thereby preventing contradictions from becoming more acute and developing into serious criminal cases.

By the end of 1980, about 812,000 people's mediation committees had been set up across the country and had since handled 6.12 million civil and minor criminal cases. This was 10.8 times the number of civil cases handled by the people's courts. These committees have thus not only greatly eased the pressure on the people's courts, but also helped solve conflicts among the people quickly.

Mediation committees are mass organizations operating under the guidance of the people's government and people's court at the grass-roots level. In the countryside, they may be set up by a production brigade; in the cities, by a neighbourhood committee; and in industrial and mining enter-



The freighter "Changcheng" being launched.

prises, by a workshop. The mediators are democratically elected for a term of two years. They may be removed at any time if they prove incompetent.

The mediators must act in accordance with state policies, laws and decrees. Agreements reached through mediation must be acceptable to both parties. Of course, if efforts at mediation should fail, the parties concerned may turn to the people's court for settlement.

Mediation committees also conduct education in state policies, laws and decrees as well as socialist morality among the people.

Since liberation in 1949, people's mediation organizations have steadily increased, except during the 10 chaotic years of the "cultural revolution." Now there are about 5,775,000 mediators in various parts of the country.

To settle conflicts among the people through mediation is a fine tradition of the labouring people of China. Now the Chinese Communist Party has given it added importance and made it a means of letting the masses educate themselves and abide by the law consciously.

At the first national conference on mediation work held in Beijing recently, experiences gained in this field were summed up for popularization.

Concern for People's Cultural Life

Following the improvement in their material life, people in the cities and countryside wish to have a richer cultural life.



Musical entertainment in a village teahouse in central China's Hubei Province.

The CPC Central Committee recently instructed Party committees at various levels and related departments to attach greater attention to the people's needs and see to it that their cultural and recreational activities develop in a healthy way.

The CPC Central Committee stressed the following points in its directive:

— The purpose of cultural activities is to enhance the people's socialist consciousness and foster communist ethics and love for the motherland so as to work for the cause of socialism and help bring up a new generation.

— Efforts must be made to enable the people to enjoy during their spare time cultural and recreational activities beneficial to both body and mind. These activities should not cater to vulgar interests or corrupt the people's mind, but the tendency to always co-ordinate these activities with current political needs should be avoided.

— Cultural and recreational activities should help the peo-

ple increase their knowledge and skill and improve their health.

Prior to the "cultural revolution," there were many cultural palaces and centres and other establishments in the big and medium-sized cities where the workers and children can watch theatrical performances or develop their talents after work and study. But these institutions were closed down during the "cultural revolution," and were reopened only after the downfall of the gang of four. The CPC Central Committee instructed that the building of recreational facilities should be listed as a major item in city planning. It stressed that Party committees in various places should pay special attention to improving the cultural life of the people in the rural and pastoral areas and in the medium-sized and small cities, and build up the towns as cultural centres. Party committees are also called upon to give whatever support that is needed to "the national minorities in celebrating their traditional festivals.

Gromyko's Speech and Moscow's Actions

A NUMBER of vital issues on the agenda of the current 36th session of the UN General Assembly are directly connected with Soviet aggressive and expansionist activities.

Yet in his speech at the 36th session, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko declared that there is no such thing as a Soviet threat today. The basis for this claim is that "the Soviet Union has not done and is not doing anything above what is absolutely essential in the interests of ensuring the peaceful life of its people, the security of its allies and friends."

However, this is what people all over the world have seen:

— The Soviet Union directly sending its armed forces to launch military aggression against other countries, such as its invasion of Czechoslovakia and Afghanistan.

— Moscow launching aggressive wars by using surrogates, such as the intervention in Angola, in the Horn of Africa, and the invasion of Zaire; and more recently using Vietnamese forces to overrun Kampuchea.

— Stationing regular troops, military advisers and other personnel, totalling nearly 900,000, in eastern Europe and some Asian, African and Latin American countries. Bringing some countries under its control and penetrating key government departments of other countries.

— The Soviet Union picking up naval and air bases in southern Africa, the Middle East, Southeast Asia and the Far East, such as Assab in Ethiopia, Aden

and Sokotra Island in South Yemen, Cam Ranh Bay and Da Nang in Viet Nam and Port Kompong Som in Kampuchea; and turning Japan's four northern islands into a military outpost.

— The Soviet Union speeding up the arms race with the other superpower in all fields, from conventional weapons to tactical and strategic nuclear weapons; on the ground, in the sea and space. It has been trying hard to win and retain superiority in armaments and in all regions.

— Moscow developing and stockpiling bacteriological and chemical weapons and using toxic chemicals against the people of Afghanistan and Kampuchea.

— The Soviet Union sending large numbers of KGB agents to infiltrate other countries to carry out subversion and sabotage and to collect intelligence.

— Massing military forces around troubled Poland and issuing menacing warnings, carrying out large-scale military exercises one after the other and ready to send its tanks into Poland.

— Attempting to exploit the turbulent situation and ethnic

and religious conflicts in Iran. The Soviet Union building up its military forces around Iran, as it bides its time, waiting for the situation to ripen.

There is a large number of problems to be discussed and settled at the current session of the UN General Assembly. Foremost are the Afghan and Kampuchean questions. Then there are the toxic chemical weapons and others waiting to be debated and solved. As the Soviet Union is involved in all these issues it will certainly come under heavy fire when they are discussed. The international community had hoped that the Soviet Union would face up to realities and bravely mend its ways and co-operate with other interested nations to seek a fair and reasonable settlement of these issues which endanger world peace, but Gromyko's speech has dashed their hopes. His speech was disappointing and disturbing. He made it quite clear that his country was deaf to reason and determined to press on with its policy of aggression and expansion on the pretext that it is "absolutely essential" for its interests. Thus, the world is finding that the Soviet Union is pitted against the great majority of the member nations and people of the world.

— Tang Tianri

Not Helpful to Improving Sino-Indian Relations

INDIAN External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao recently alleged in the Rajya Sabha (Council of the States) and the Lok Sabha (House of the People) that China had occupied 14,500 square miles of Indian territory

in the Ladakh region and about 2,000 square miles of Kashmir controlled by Pakistan and "illegally ceded to China according to the Boundary Agreement Between China and Pakistan of 1963." Similar allegations of

Indian territory being occupied by China have been made earlier by other Indian leaders.

Such allegations are completely groundless and China has stated so quite explicitly. There is a traditional and conventional boundary line between China and India, though it has never been officially delimited. China has not occupied an inch of Indian territory. On the contrary, in the 1950s, India had crossed the traditional, conventional line in the eastern sector of the Sino-Indian border, occupied some 90,000 square kilometres of Chinese territory and even laid claim to vast tracts of Chinese territory.

For the Indian External Affairs Minister Rao to make such groundless charges against China today, when China and India have agreed to hold a meeting between officials of the two countries to discuss ways to settle the border problem and develop normal bilateral relations, is not conducive to reaching a reasonable settlement of the border problem between the two countries. Nor is it conducive to the maintenance of the friendly atmosphere created when the two sides decided not long ago to improve the relations between the two countries. The Chinese people cannot but find this highly regrettable.

The allegation made by Rao that Pakistan had "illegally ceded" "Indian" territory to China, is even more unreasonable. First, China and Pakistan are both sovereign states. The delimitation of the boundary by Pakistan of areas contiguous with China under its actual control conforms to international practice. With the unsettlement of the Kashmir dispute in mind, Article Six of the Boundary Agreement Between China and Pakistan states quite clearly that "after the settlement of the

Kashmir dispute between Pakistan and India, the sovereign authority concerned will reopen negotiations with the Government of the People's Republic of China on the boundary, as described in Article Two of the present Agreement, so as to sign a formal boundary treaty to replace the present Agreement."

The Chinese Government and people have always regarded the Sino-Indian border problem as a question left over by history. It has been made more complicated by the policy of aggression and expansion and sowing dissension pursued by the imperialists. The Chinese side has all along held that the two sides should adopt an attitude of equality and mutual accommodation towards finding a just and reasonable solution of the problem through negotiations, taking into consideration both the historical background and the cur-

rent situation as well as the national sentiments of the two peoples.

The Chinese people are firmly convinced that the Sino-Indian border problem can be settled provided both parties are sincere, abide by the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence initiated by the two countries and work earnestly for it. We sincerely hope that prior to the meeting of officials from the two governments, the Indian side will take a positive and forward-looking attitude, desist from making statements not conducive to improving relations between the two countries, which will thus help promote friendship between the two peoples and help bring success to negotiations on the boundary question.

—*"Renmin Ribao" commentary (September 30)*

US-Saudi Arabia

The AWACS Deal

US PRESIDENT Ronald Reagan formally told Congress on October 1 of the US plan to sell Saudi Arabia airborne warning and control system planes (AWACS) and other air defence equipment. No one is sure whether this \$8.5 billion sale of weapons will be passed by Congress because of stubborn and vociferous Israeli objections and opposition from the strong Israeli lobby. Recent Saudi condemnation of the announced "strategic co-operation" between the United States and Israel is another factor working against the sale of AWACS to Saudi Arabia.

Obstacle

Saudi Arabia's desire to buy the AWACS has run into tre-

mendous resistance. The United States has repeatedly raised all sorts of conditions, such as limiting the operational area, sharing information monitored, protecting the advanced technology of the planes and so on. With all these controls, military experts estimate that the AWACS will be able to do only half what they are capable of. Moreover, even if the US Government is able to persuade Congress to approve the sale of these planes, Saudi Arabia will not take delivery of them until five years later and another five years will lapse before Saudi pilots are able to operate them and handle the information. Before Begin's last visit to the United States, a group of Israeli experts was in the United States to study the

AWACS and had even spent 10 hours on board one of these planes in flight. No one can say the Israeli authorities are not fully familiar with the function and operation of these planes. Despite this Israel and the Israeli lobby are still against Saudi Arabia buying the AWACS.

Double Threat

The United States has always been partial to Israel in its Middle East policy. Now, the Arab people are faced with two threats, from Israel and the Soviet Union, as the latter pushes its way into the Middle East, particularly after its invasion of Afghanistan. The Arab countries today want to settle the issues caused by Israeli aggression and expansion so as to maintain stability and security in the Middle East and together confront the Soviet southward drive. In recent years, Saudi Arabia has been actively building up unity among the Gulf countries. It did much to bring about a ceasefire in Lebanon and has put forward a seven-point proposal for the peaceful settlement of the Middle East problem. All these moves, of course, were taken with the view to stop Soviet expansion into the region.

Options Open to USA

However, there are enormous differences still between the policy deliberations of Saudi Arabia and the majority of the other Arab countries and that of the United States. In fact, the United States and most of the Arab countries are at loggerheads in many matters. The United States has repeatedly stressed giving top priority to

Soviet expansion in the Middle East, but it has not come up with any specific, practical proposal to get Israel to accept the reasonable proposals for settling the Arab-Israeli disputes. On some issues, such as establishing settlements on Israeli occupied territories, the United States has taken a big step backwards. And when Begin was in the United States, the United States and Israel established what they called "strategic co-operation." All these run counter to Arab aspirations. It is under these circumstances that the US authori-

ties are trying hard to swing the sale of AWACS to Saudi Arabia so as to even the balance between the Arab countries and Israel. The US authorities have recently said that if the deal does not come off, the United States would reconsider its "strategic co-operation" with Israel. As for the Arab people, they are going to judge what the United States can do by the success or failure of the AWACS sale, under obstinate opposition from Israel and the pro-Israeli forces inside the United States.

— Xing Xiangchao

Moscow's Spying

ON September 15, the Soviet ambassador to Egypt Vladimir Polyakov and six of his embassy staff were expelled by the Egyptian Government for subversive activities against the host country. This is the second time this year that Soviet espionage and subversion were unearthed by the Egyptian authorities. The first was announced in January, and two Soviet diplomats were subsequently thrown out of the country.

The decision to deport the Soviet ambassador was another major step taken by the Egyptian Government to defend state sovereignty, national independence and to counter Soviet hegemonism. In 1976 Egypt had expelled about 20,000 Soviet military advisers and abrogated the Egyptian-Soviet friendship treaty.

KGB Agents Expelled

In the last 10 years or so a whole spate of Soviet espionage activities have been uncovered

and KGB agents have been expelled in droves from a score of countries. They no longer shock people as much nowadays. Soviet spies are almost as common as attaches at a diplomatic cocktail party.

But before we lose count, here is an incomplete list of Soviet spy cases in more recent years. In September 1971, 105 Soviet "diplomats" and other Soviet personnel were expelled by the British Government for involvement in espionage. Then in April 1972 a Soviet spy ring was broken by the Colombian Government and 119 Soviet "diplomats" and dependents were ordered to leave the country. Uncovering such large espionage networks shook the world at that time. Then followed a long list of deportations of Soviet spies from West European nations, from France, Spain, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Italy and 6 other countries. Altogether Moscow was asked to take delivery of more than 200 of its spies. Soviet

spying has not been confined to Western Europe and Latin America. Soviet spies have been caught red-handed in Africa, Asia, North America and Latin America.

As Moscow steps up its infiltration and expansion, KGB agents and their activities have proliferated and grown more blatant. This year alone, Soviet agents have been uncovered and expelled from Spain, Norway, Austria, Malaysia, Britain, Egypt and some other countries.

Not Confined to Gathering Intelligence

Many Soviet advisers and diplomats in Viet Nam, Laos and Kampuchea are in fact KGB agents, who directly or indirectly control the Vietnamese, Laotian and Kampuchean intelligence organizations, gather

information about Thailand, the United States and China. This year, Moscow's agents in Washington are reported to have stepped up their espionage activities.

Soviet espionage activities are not confined to collecting intelligence. They extend to international terrorist activities and plots to subvert countries. Egyptian Deputy Premier and Minister of the Interior Nabawi Ismail in a television speech pointed out not long ago that Soviet agents were inciting illegal, secret organizations in Egypt to sedition, fomenting enmity among religious groups and attempting to subvert the Egyptian Government. He said his government will soon be publishing details of Soviet espionage activities.

— Lu Tong
(Sept. 26)

gas and other energy resources. Between 1976-80 Czechoslovakia alone put 2,600 million rubles into "integrated projects" and Hungary diverted 4 per cent of its total national investment to this. Other East European countries have been made to contribute very generously, too.


On the whole, the East European countries are rather resource poor and get most of their fuel and raw materials from the Soviet Union. The limited supply of energy from the Soviet Union is exacerbating contradictions within the CMEA and some member states are loudly complaining about CMEA energy policy. At the 35th CMEA conference in July this year, Polish leaders pleaded with other members to give enough raw materials to keep Polish factories operating.

Rising Oil Prices

Since the onset of the energy crisis, the Kremlin has unilaterally raised prices for fuel and raw materials each year to attain parity with prices on the international market. This has hurt other CMEA members and racked up bigger trade deficits each year with the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union has abandoned the policy of establishing oil prices once every five years within the CMEA and is selling oil to its trading partners at international market prices. The machine tools and raw materials the Soviets sell to East Europeans are respectively 26 per cent and 15 per cent higher than prevailing prices on the international market and this is strongly resented by the East European countries.

Hungary and Bulgaria have repeatedly asked for higher

Conflicting Interests Inside CMEA

 AS the forms of co-operation between the member states of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) diversify more and more, so the contradictions among them grow sharper. This is particularly true with conflicts of economic interests between the East European partners and the Soviet Union. Soviet "economic integration" plans are being held back by these deepening conflicts.

Energy and Raw Materials

The East European countries have run into shortages of funds and raw materials for their sizeable industries. They want a stable supply and demand relationship on the basis of a division of labour inside the CMEA along specialized lines

and an assured contracted supply of raw materials and fuel. The Soviets are exploiting this and the pretext that "fuel bases are moving out towards Siberia, where transport is difficult and the weather is harsh" to get the East European countries to provide manpower, funds and equipment to "jointly developing" new raw material bases inside the Soviet Union. If they refuse to comply, they will not be able to get larger quantities of fuel and raw materials, the Soviets threatened. A number of "joint exploitation" agreements were foisted on the East European partners on the pretext that "economic integration" cannot be realized if the CMEA member states do not chip in to help open up the oil, natural

prices for farm produce and have frequently brought this subject up at CMEA conferences. Hungary has to export large quantities of farm produce to the Soviet Union in exchange for the crude oil it needs. In recent years the price scissors between raw materials and industrial goods have been opened out further because the prices of farm produce, though increased twice by very small margins upon strong representations by Hungary, Bulgaria and other East European countries, could not keep pace with mounting prices for oil. Coupled with the fact that farm produce prices in the CMEA are on average 19 per cent lower than on the international market, Hungary, Bulgaria and Poland have been made to sustain heavy losses, while the Soviet Union reaps the benefits.

Trade With the West

The Soviet Union has always demanded that CMEA members first fulfil demands inside the bloc before developing trade relations with the West and has fixed for each member the proportion of exports going to the Soviet Union out of their total exports. Ever since the 70s, however, all CMEA countries, the Soviet Union included, have been vying with each other to expand trade with the West to earn hard currencies to pay for advanced technologies and equipment from the West.

Trade between the Soviet Union and the West has grown rapidly. The turnover between the Soviet Union and the West European nations has risen sevenfold between 1970-80. The Soviet Union's trade with West-

ern Europe in 1980 made up 80.4 per cent of its total volume of trade with the West and accounted for 27 per cent of its total volume of foreign trade. In Soviet trade with the West, natural gas and petroleum figure prominently and their prices are constantly rising. This growing volume of Soviet exports to the West, coupled with Soviet attempts to curtail exports to its CMEA partners, has aroused strong feelings in East European countries.

East European countries have also worked to develop trade with the West, but after fulfilling targets inside the CMEA, they have not much to spare for export to the West and are finding their trade deficits growing and having to borrow more and more. To lower their trade deficits they must increase exports to the West and this invariably affects trade with other CMEA partners, and the Soviet Union in particular. Consequently, there are frequent clashes inside the CMEA whenever the topic of East-West trade is raised.

Mongolia, Cuba and Viet Nam

For strategic goals and to enlarge its spheres of influence, the Soviet Union has brought three "poor partners," Mongolia, Cuba and Viet Nam, into the CMEA despite strong opposition from other CMEA nations. This has enlarged the economic and technological disparities between CMEA countries and put a heavier burden on the relatively more industrialized East European countries. The Soviet Union again is the only beneficiary.

The Soviet Union is very interested in the Mongolian Peo-

ple's Republic because, of the three new partners, it has comparatively more natural resources underground. In Soviet plans to "develop the Far East," Mongolia is not forgotten, but CMEA members disagree as how the resources should be exploited. Most of them are not happy with the idea of "everyone taking part in exploiting for one member's sole benefit."

The Polish Problem

The second largest CMEA country is Poland, which supplies other East European countries with large quantities of coal from its vast reserves. Some 30-40 million tons of its annual 200-million-ton output are exported. But since the Polish crisis broke out in the summer of 1980 coal output has been going down drastically. In the first five months of this year, Poland produced 19 million tons less than it did in the same period of last year. This has had an adverse effect on the national economy and the other CMEA countries Poland trades with. Last year Poland ran up a trade deficit of 1,000 million US dollars and by all indications the figure will go on climbing this year. The Western press say that Polish delays in coal deliveries are upsetting CMEA allies' economic plans. At the recent 35th CMEA conference some members proposed retaliatory measures against Poland and strong economic sanctions against those breaking economic agreements. The Polish problem is sure to further aggravate contradictions inside the CMEA.

— Shi Tongzhi

Facts About Sino-Vietnamese Relations (1)

Mainstream of the History of Sino-Vietnamese Relations

The Le Duan clique of Viet Nam has for some time been crying "China threat" with a view to misleading world public opinion, fanning anti-China sentiments and covering up its regional hegemonistic expansion. It claims that Viet Nam has been historically "a constant victim of Chinese aggression" and that Viet Nam is still now being "threatened" by China.

What then is the history of Sino-Vietnamese relations? What is the source of Sino-Vietnamese divergence? Is Viet Nam really threatened by China? The quarterly "International Studies" answers these questions with facts in an article entitled "Facts About Sino-Vietnamese Relations" (issue No. 2, October 1, 1981). We are publishing excerpts of the article in three parts, beginning in this issue. — Ed.

CHINA and Viet Nam are neighbours and the peoples of the two countries are linked by age-old traditional friendship. Comrade Ho Chi Minh said: "Our Vietnamese and Chinese nations have shared blood as well as culture over thousands of years. Historically, we are known as fraternal neighbouring countries."¹ In modern times, the relationship between the two peoples became even closer. As Comrade Mao Zedong said: "Whether in the struggle against imperialist aggression or in the course of socialist construction, our two peoples have always been sharing weal and woe and supporting each other and in close co-operation."²

Twists and turns, however, did occur in the long history of Sino-Vietnamese relations. One instance is the Chinese feudal dynasties' aggression against Viet Nam. The Chinese people have never intended to gloss over these acts against their neighbouring country; on the contrary, they always condemn them.

In late June 1955, Comrade Ho Chi Minh paid his first official visit to China at the head

of a Vietnamese Party and government delegation. During the first round of bilateral talks, Comrade Mao Zedong touched on the question of ancient China's invasion of Viet Nam. In November 1956 when Comrade Zhou Enlai first visited Viet Nam, he went in person to the "Two Trung Sisters' Temple" and there laid a wreath to show respect for the two Trung sisters' heroic resistance to the Chinese feudal dynasty's national oppression more than 1,900 years ago. These facts are clear indications of the proletarian internationalist attitude of the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese Government; they also reflect the Chinese people's firm stand on the side of all the peoples suffering from aggression and oppression. Fully understanding this attitude of the Chinese side, Comrade Ho Chi Minh in return underscored the age-old friendship between the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples. Replying to Comrade Mao Zedong, he declared: "The peoples of Viet Nam and China were both oppressed and friends; they are now comrades-in-arms in making revolution."³ He said to Comrade Zhou Enlai: "With the Chinese Communist Party, the age-old good-neighbourly relations of the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples have over the past 30-odd years been drawn even closer."⁴ Had this attitude as expressed by Comrades Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai and Ho Chi Minh prevailed, the history of Sino-Vietnamese relations would have become a factor in promoting their friendship and could never be used to sabotage it.

Since the mid-1960s, however, the Le Duan clique of Viet Nam has opposed the stand taken by Comrade Ho Chi Minh and, using the past to besmirch the present, intentionally played up the ancient Chinese feudal dynasties' invasion of Viet Nam to create a "historical basis" for its assertion of a "China threat."

If this adverse current in the history of Sino-Vietnamese relations must be dealt with,

then we feel it appropriate to mention also a fact Viet Nam has tried to cover up, i.e., the aggression Vietnamese feudal dynasties committed against China.

Historical records show that when the Vietnamese feudal rulers gained certain strength, especially when the Chinese feudal dynasties were weakened for internal and external reasons, they would take advantage of the Sino-Vietnamese borders being far from the Chinese ruling centre to harass Chinese borders and nibble away at Chinese territory, or support rebellion by Chinese separatist forces. The Vietnamese feudal rulers' aggression against China had caused heavy losses, to the lives and property of the Chinese people. This aggression is mentioned in many Chinese historical records. In China's Song Dynasty (960-1279 A.D.), for instance, China was invaded on 12 occasions in the 246 years from 995 A.D. (under the reign of Tai Zong) to 1241 A.D. (under the reign of Li Zong). The most grievous of these invasions brought the greatest disaster to the Chinese people—Ly Chuong Kiet's invasions of Qinzhou (present-day Ningshan of Guangxi), Lianzhou (present-day Hepu of Guangxi) and Yongzhou (present-day Nanning of Guangxi) in 1075 A.D. (under the reign of Shen Zong). When Vietnamese troops captured Yongzhou, they slaughtered all of the 58,000 people there, bringing the total number of Chinese people killed during the invasions to more than 100,000. These historical events were recorded in *Historical Records of Great Viet Nam* (Vol. 3) published by a Vietnamese feudal dynasty.

The Le Duan clique, however, denies any and all aggression against China by Vietnamese feudal dynasties, saying that "throughout the feudal periods of the two countries, there were wars launched by the Chinese emperors against Viet Nam, and no war was unleashed by the Vietnamese feudal emperors against China."⁵ *The History of Viet Nam* (Vol. 1) published in 1971 does not mention Ly Chuong Kiet's slaughter of Chinese civilians. On the contrary, it praises Ly as a brilliant "national hero."

Of course, it is improper to regard the Chinese feudal rulers' aggression against Viet Nam or the Vietnamese feudal rulers' aggression against China as the main aspect of the history of Sino-Vietnamese relations, and even more fallacious to see the incidents as the entire history. It would be in fact a harsh distortion of history and a negation of historical material-

ism. The mainstream of the history is friendly contacts and mutual support between the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples.

These friendly contacts since ancient times have greatly promoted the economy and culture of the two peoples. Such Chinese production techniques as applying fertilizer, irrigation, deep ploughing, breeding silkworms and cultivating mulberry trees, making paper and ceramics, architecture, medicine and smelting were introduced to Viet Nam, while the Vietnamese Zhiem Thanh rice, sweet potatoes, longan and litchi came to China. The Chinese Han language has influenced Vietnamese to the extent that over half of the lexicon of Viet Nam consists of Han characters or words originating from them. The Chinese and Vietnamese peoples have much in common in customs and habits; they share the traditional holidays of Spring Festival, Qingming Festival, Dragon Boat Festival (the fifth day of the fifth lunar month), and Mid-Autumn Festival (the 15th day of the eighth lunar month).

Besides economic and cultural interflow, the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples have given mutual support and have long cherished firm and militant friendship in struggles against common enemies.

The "Two Trung Sisters' Uprising" claimed by the Vietnamese authorities to be purely Vietnamese was in fact an uprising of ancestors of both the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples against oppression and enslavement. Historical records describe the uprising as involving some 60 cities, half or more of which were in China.

Modern times present us with more instances of the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples fighting shoulder to shoulder against imperialist aggression from the West, as well as against feudal rule. One instance is the heroic struggle waged by the famous Chinese Black Flag Army and the Vietnamese people in the 70s and 80s of the 19th century against French invaders. Later, such pioneers of the Vietnamese bourgeois-democratic revolution as Phan Boi Chau fought for national salvation with China as their base. And the Chinese bourgeois-democratic revolution led by Dr. Sun Yat-sen received valuable support from the Vietnamese people.

The Chinese and Vietnamese peoples and revolutionaries became much closer after the October Revolution in Russia. Many of Comrade Ho Chi Minh's revolutionary activities were conducted on Chinese soil, China's Guangxi border area being the Vietnamese revolution-

aries' base. Likewise, during the War of Liberation when the Guangdong-Guangxi and Yunnan-Guangxi Detachments which were led by the Communist Party of China suffered from enemy attacks on all sides, they moved into the Vietnamese liberated area and were warmly received by the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Vietnamese border people.

The founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949 opened a new chapter in Sino-Vietnamese relations; the friendship between the two peoples advanced still further. The Chinese people who had won liberation regarded supporting the fraternal Vietnamese people's struggle for national liberation as an internationalist duty. As old China was poor and backward, the newborn state faced an urgent problem of national reconstruction, which was made more difficult by the arduous task of aiding Korea in her fight against US aggression. But the Chinese Government still decided to do its best to support the Vietnamese people's struggle against the French aggressors. Even during China's three years of economic difficulties and her 10 years of turmoil, the Chinese people tightened their belts and gave all-out support to the Vietnamese people's struggle against US aggression.

Early in 1950 when the Vietnamese war of resistance against the French invaders was going badly, Comrade Ho Chi Minh came to Beijing for consultation with the CPC Central Committee, and Comrade Mao Zedong pledged all-out support to Viet Nam. He also decided to postpone establishing diplomatic relations with France, but to take this diplomatic step with the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam immediately. When Viet Nam was locked in war against the United States for national salvation, Comrade Mao Zedong said that if any one of us who said we should not help the Vietnamese people in their struggle against US aggression and for national salvation, he would betray the revolution. Comrade Zhou Enlai often quoted these words of Comrade Mao Zedong to instruct our cadres and masses.

Comrades Mao Zedong and Zhou Enlai devoted no small part of their life's work to supporting Viet Nam. They identified themselves with the Vietnamese people in personally studying Viet Nam's requests for aid each year. Comrade Mao Zedong ordered mosquito nets to be donated to the Vietnamese soldiers who were fighting in the mosquito-infested south Viet Nam with a hot and humid climate.

He also had dehydrated, condensed and enriched food prepared by one Shanghai food-products factory and sent to Viet Nam. To ensure that aid materials reached their destination promptly, Comrade Zhou Enlai personally gave great attention to every question encountered, including even the packing of arms and ammunition, as well as the means of their transport. Comrade Zhou Enlai, knowing that Vietnamese women, the main carriers of materials to the front, in many cases carried their loads on their heads or shoulders, ordered that each bundle weigh no more than 30 kilogrammes. Even during his illness, Comrade Zhou Enlai met in hospital with Vietnamese leaders to discuss China's aid to Viet Nam.

Over the two decades or more, the Chinese Government and people quietly provided a great amount of aid to Viet Nam to the value of more than 20,000 million US dollars, including light and heavy arms and ammunition and other military materials sufficient to equip 2 million ground, naval and air forces, some hundred productive enterprises and repair works, 300 million metres of cloth, 30,000 automobiles, several hundred kilometres of railways complete with rails, locomotives and carriages, over 5 million tons of food grains, some 2 million tons of gasoline, upwards of 3,000 kilometres of oil pipes, as well as several hundred million US dollars in ready cash — all with no strings attached. Most were gratis; a few were interest-free loans.

Besides material assistance, China in 28 years sent to Viet Nam some 20,000 experts and advisers as well as 300,000 personnel in engineering and anti-aircraft units. Thousands of fine sons and daughters of the Chinese people gave their lives in Viet Nam. A thousand lie buried on Vietnamese soil.

The present leaders of Viet Nam have in the past admitted the role of Chinese assistance in winning her wars for national liberation, healing her war wounds, restoring and developing her economy and improving the lives of her people. Pham Van Dong said in 1974: "The Chinese Party and Government have, under all circumstances, been selflessly supporting and helping the Vietnamese people in revolutionary struggles and in our postwar reconstruction." Le Duan also said in 1975: "It is obvious that without the success of the Chinese revolution, there would be no Viet Nam as it is today. This is the logic of history."

Out of their present need to oppose China,

the Vietnamese authorities have broken their word, flagrantly misrepresented Chinese assistance and vilified China as acting like "the No. 1 imperialist" who uses aid as "a bargaining chip" and "a tool to put pressure" on Viet Nam to change its "line of independence, self-reliance and international unity." They attacked China for reducing its aid and finally suspending it reluctantly after Viet Nam won nationwide liberation.

Concerning Chinese assistance to Viet Nam in the postwar period, the Chinese leaders stated clearly more than once to the Vietnamese leaders after south Viet Nam was liberated in 1975: Giving all-out support to the socialist construction of Viet Nam is the consistent policy of the Chinese Party. The problem now is how to balance Viet Nam's need and China's ability. When Viet Nam was resisting US aggression, the Chinese people went all out to aid Viet Nam, even to the point of straining their resources. The war is now over. Viet Nam has seized considerable war booty and acquired assistance from many channels for the postwar period. At the same time when China is confronted by enormous economic difficulties, and Viet Nam should give us a breathing space. Yet China has continued to give support to Viet Nam in the rehabilitation and development of her national economy.

Certain reductions in assistance to Viet Nam are logical and understandable, and for a time the Vietnamese leaders expressed their "understanding" verbally. But they later heaped abuse on China out of their need to step up their opposition to China. This demonstrates that they are treacherous and callous indeed.

It was not until mid-1978 that the Chinese Government discontinued economic and technical assistance to Viet Nam, and withdrew Chinese engineering and technical personnel. At that time, the Le Duan clique drove away large numbers of Chinese residents in Viet Nam, placing on China a heavy burden in providing finance and materials to arrange work and livelihood for the refugees. Moreover, with the mounting campaign to oppose China and persecute Chinese in Viet Nam, the Chinese experts there found it impossible to carry on their work in the absence of elementary working conditions.

Although China gave considerable assistance to Viet Nam, the Chinese people have always held that revolutionary struggles over the world support one another. In their talks

with the Vietnamese leaders, Comrades Mao Zedong and Zhou Enlai told them that Chinese people put a high value on the important contributions made by the Vietnamese people to the progressive cause of mankind. Comrade Mao Zedong said: "To tell the truth, the people of the whole world, including the Chinese people and the Chinese Party, should all thank you." Comrade Zhou Enlai said: "The Chinese people, the Chinese Party, the Chinese Government and the Chinese army express admiration and gratitude to you for your dauntless spirit in waging a hard struggle against the enemies at the forefront. The people of the rest of the world thank you too." As in the past, the Chinese people admire and thank the Vietnamese people for winning the war against US aggression. They will remain so in the future. But this does not mean that the Vietnamese authorities should use the meritorious deeds of the Vietnamese people as ammunition to oppose China. They trumpeted that Viet Nam defended China with blood and lives in the war against the US aggressors, and accused China of being "ungrateful" and "repaying kindness with enmity." Seeing the truth about the assistance the Chinese Government and people gave to Viet Nam, the world's people will draw the logical conclusion as to who is "ungrateful" and "repays kindness with enmity."

A brief study of Sino-Vietnamese relations over the past 10 years is sufficient to convince anyone who observes and analyses historical incidents from a historical-materialist viewpoint that past wars between China and Viet Nam launched by feudal rulers of the two countries were mere unhappy episodes in the long history of Sino-Vietnamese relations and that friendly contacts and mutual support between the peoples of both countries constitute the mainstream.

(To be continued.)

NOTES

1. Ho Chi Minh, "A Letter to Fraternal Overseas Chinese," September 2, 1945.
2. Message by Chairman Mao, Chairman Zhu De of the NPC Standing Committee and Premier Zhou Enlai on September 1, 1982, congratulating the 17th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.
3. Ho Chi Minh's words to Chairman Mao Zedong during his visit to China in June 1955.
4. A speech by President Ho Chi Minh at the banquet he gave in honour of Premier Zhou Enlai during his visit to Viet Nam in November 1956.
5. "The Chinese Expansionists Distort the History of Viet Nam" by Vu Ba in the Vietnamese magazine *Communism* (issue No. 1, 1980)

Reports From Dalian

Worker Education

by Our Correspondent Li Ming

Upgrading the educational level and technological expertise of China's entire work force is a vital factor in the drive for modernization. In the past few years a number of innovative efforts in this direction have got under way in many parts of the country. Following are our correspondent's reports on progress in worker education in the coastal city of Dalian. — Ed.

An Important Step

SITUATED at the southern end of the Liaodong Peninsula in China's northeast, Dalian is a medium-size industrial city which was occupied first by Russian and then by Japanese imperialists and returned to the Chinese people only after World War II.

Not long ago I visited the Dalian City Committee for Worker-Peasant Education, a standing body under the city government, whose formation at the end of 1979 signals a new phase of work in this field. The Dalian city government had started educational programmes for workers and staffs in the latter half of the 1940s, but, like everything else, this effort was undermined during the "cultural revolution."

The committee's Chen Taiyun emphasized to me the urgent need for worker education: An initial investigation of city workers and staffs in early 1979 showed that most workers' educational level was below junior high school. Some 4.7 per cent were illiterate, and only 3 per cent were technical personnel. Less than 1 per cent of the workers and staffs in the light industrial, financial and commercial departments were technicians, and only one-third of the city's leading cadres had

professional management training.

Generally speaking, the percentage of technical personnel in any enterprise should be around 30 of its entire payroll. Dalian enterprises would need another 230,000 technicians to reach this proportion. Since only 800 college graduates were assigned annually to Dalian by the government in the last few years, it would take 290 years to attain this figure! Obviously, waiting for new college graduates was no solution. The city's answer was an all-out effort to develop the needed personnel by raising the educational level of workers and staffs already employed.

Developing Policies

Since the end of 1978, Chen Taiyun told me, the Dalian City Committee of the Chinese Communist Party has convened 10 special meetings on how to promote work in this field.

City Party Secretary Wei Fuhai believes in on-the-spot problem-solving. When he learnt that a lack of television sets was delaying factories' plans to set up TV classes, he personally asked the local TV factory to raise its output of 19-inch sets. When informed that the lessons transmitted from the Central Television

University in Beijing could not be received clearly, he inquired into the reason and then approved the appropriation of 700,000 yuan to import equipment needed to improve reception.

So many problems of different kinds needed to be solved that the city Party committee decided to set up a special city-wide committee for worker-peasant education. Each of the bureaus under the city government assigned a leading member to be responsible for the work. Education departments were established in large and medium-size enterprises, and special persons were made responsible for education in small factories.

Many enterprise leaders were initially skeptical about the programme, especially before they had seen any real results. So some followed orders mechanically and without enthusiasm.

To make sure that enterprises took worker education seriously, the city Party committee and the city government issued some rules: Progress in worker education would be one of the factors considered in recommending advanced units. Whether a worker takes part in studying would be considered in recommending advanced workers. His or her academic record would help determine whether a worker should be promoted. Full pay would be given to either full-time or part-time worker-students during their period of study. Bonuses would still be given to those full-time worker-students who attend classes for a short period of



Worker-students studying in a classroom converted from an exhibition room.

three months; other allowances would be granted to those who study for longer periods. Graduates from worker colleges would get the same pay as graduates of ordinary colleges and universities. Full-time teachers engaging in worker education would be treated the same as technical personnel or those teaching in ordinary schools. Part-time teachers would get extra pay for their hours of teaching apart from their monthly wage.

Teachers in some factories, mines or stores have priority in promotion or getting an apartment. There are now 1,500 full-time and some 4,000 part-time teachers engaged in worker education in Dalian. The city government and trade unions collected 1.3 million yuan and asked institutes of higher learning to train 1,200 teachers for the worker schools.

Classroom space for the worker schools were to be provided by the sponsoring factories. Those which could not set up new buildings have now converted spare office, reception or meeting rooms into classrooms. The city trade

unions appropriated more than 2 million yuan to build a worker education centre of 10,000 square metres.

All these measures no doubt boost the worker education. At present, more than 90 per cent of the city's enterprises run their own schools or training courses, with a total enrolment of 450,000 students—48 per cent of their workers and staffs. More than 16,000 persons are studying in worker colleges.

Flexible Approaches

Various forms of training courses have been developed to suit the large number of workers eager to study, their dif-

ferent educational backgrounds and their different specialties. Some of the training courses are run by the factories; some are jointly run by factories and schools; others are run for a whole trade; still others are sponsored by colleges and universities.

I visited the No. 12 Radio Factory, which has a reputation as an innovator in this field. In May last year, this small factory with some 300 employees initiated a system of six hours of work and two hours of study—a practice which has been adopted with variations by some 20 other industrial and communications enterprises. Some 12,000 students are now enrolled in programmes that range from seven hours of work and one hour of study to five days of work and one day of study.

At 2:50 p.m. when the bell rang, I watched as workers hurried to their respective classrooms. At a class in business management, the students being veteran workers, team or shift leaders and administrative workers, the teacher was calling the roll in real earnest. Deputy director Geng told me that factory discipline for work and study periods is the same. Absence from class without good reason is treated as seriously as staying away from work without leave. Apart from



the business management class, there are three training classes for junior high level and one for senior high.

Two hours of classwork every day helps raise the workers' educational level very quickly. More than 90 per cent of the workers in this radio factory have an educational level below junior high. It would take six years for all of them to reach the level of junior high if they studied only in their spare time. The present system ensures that they will finish junior high within three years. Consistent daily study helps workers learn. More than 80 per cent of the workers pass their exams.

The part-time training courses run by factories are only one form of worker education. Dalian has 10 colleges and universities with a total teaching staff of 5,000. Besides a wide range of professional educators, they have experimental equipment and facilities—just what the worker schools lack. So factories, colleges and universities have joined hands. The former hire professors and rent classroom space from the latter, while the institutes co-operate by helping plan and organize curricula. At present, 6,800 workers attend evening schools and training courses run by institutes of higher learning.

Jointly run schools are popular at the middle-school level as well. One hundred and thirty-nine factories, mines and stores run 251 training courses together with local middle schools. Their students number 12,600. Spare-time colleges attached to the city association of science and technology sponsored 90 courses for training professionals in the academic year 1979-80. The 7,000 graduates all made contributions when they went back to work.

Looking Ahead

What is the future of worker education?

Tang Shifu of the committee on worker and peasant education showed me the plans of a 10-storey building which will be the new worker education centre, equipped with all modern teaching facilities. Pointing to a piece of land outside his office window, he told me that construction would soon begin on this site.

Tang also outlined some long-term goals established last year:

By 1985, two-thirds of the city's Party and government leaders should be professionals in their respective lines and should possess knowledge of scientific business management; 7.3 per cent of all employed citywide should be technicians or scientists; the educational level of young workers should reach at least the junior high school level and a technical level of the third rank; and 16 per cent of the city's workers and staffs should reach the level of high school or secondary technical school graduates.

An Investment That Pays Off

LAST year alone, 110,000 of Dalian's workers completed studies in various colleges, schools and training courses covering basic knowledge and specialized technical skills. Almost every young and middle-aged worker in industrial, transport and communications and capital construction enterprises had his or her technical qualification raised one grade higher in 1979 and 1980. Energetic support of worker

education programmes by Dalian's leadership has paid off in a number of ways.

Production Boosted

Last year, workers of the Dalian Shipyard began studying quality-control methods, and this subject is now a featured part of the shipyard's training programme. I paid a visit there just to get an idea what had been gained in the study.



The quality-control team of the iron casting workshop at work.

For Your Reference

Worker Education in China

The Chinese Party and Government always make great efforts to raise the educational level of the workers and peasants. In June 1950, shortly after the birth of New China, the Administrative Council issued the *Directive on Conducting Spare-Time Education Among Workers and Staff Members* which declared: "The Central People's Government regards it as a task of paramount importance to develop education among workers and peasants and train them into intellectuals."

Before the "cultural revolution" began in 1966, over 100 million people had learnt to read and write, 960,000 had graduated from part-time middle schools and 200,000 more from part-time colleges.

By 1985, the total enrolment in various spare-time schools for workers had reached 17.19 million. Among them, 8.24 million were in part-time primary schools, 5.02 million in part-time middle schools, 3.51 million in part-time secondary technical schools and 410,000 in part-time colleges. All this helped greatly in raising the educational level of China's vast contingent of workers. The skills of these trained workers played a significant part in socialist construction.

To recoup lost time, the drive for ongoing worker education has gone into high gear during the past few years. Part-time worker colleges have been reopened all over the country. Many regular colleges and universities now sponsor correspondence and evening courses. TV colleges have been set up, and worker primary and middle schools have been resumed.

In 1980, some 1.1 million workers attended 3,600 spare-time schools and colleges, over 100,000 graduated from worker colleges and over 1 million from workers' middle schools, and tens of millions raised their educational and technical levels to varying degrees.

In April 1980 a national worker education committee was set up; since then 25 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions have set up their own worker or worker-peasant education committees.

At present, 490,000 workers are enrolled in part-time primary schools, 2.9 million in part-time middle schools, 2.01 million in secondary technical schools, and 1.53 million in various kinds of worker colleges. So far 68,000 full-time and 250,000 part-time teachers are on the faculties of the various worker schools and colleges. The Ministry of Education has compiled and published a series of text and reference books for workers studying in part-time primary and middle schools.

The national plan drafted in 1980 specified that during the Sixth Five-Year Plan period (1981-85), every worker and staff member should participate in at least one educational programme or training course.

Liu Han, deputy director of the steel casting workshop, told me that every cadre and worker in his workshop had passed the course. "Now that the workers have mastered the ropes, they're really good at pinpointing problems in the production process," he said, showing me

a quality-analysis blueprint drawn by several workers using the methods they had learnt in the course.

In 1978 the workshop had had to scrap four steel furnaces, and another three the next year. In 1980, after going

through the training course, workers made an analysis of the whole production process and worked out appropriate quality control measures. As a result the 1,013 steel furnaces they processed in 1980 were all up to the standard, raising the percentage of first-grade product from 68.2 in 1979 to 81.4 in 1980. They have since kept the reject rate below 1 per cent, well within the prescribed limit. The workshop quality-control team has been commended as a national model in this field.

Xue Hongxue, head of the quality-control group of the tool workshop, showed me a quality-analysis blueprint drawn by his workers with methods learnt in the training course. In the past the quality of their M-20 tapered tap drills was so poor that the parts broke easily. After comparing their products with Japanese ones, the workers located 17 weak points in the production process and worked out measures to eliminate them. As a result, their drills, which formerly could cut only 60 holes, now cut 144. Product quality is as good as those produced in Japan.

Director Li of the training department informed me that the Dalian Shipyard fulfilled all state plans ahead of schedule in 1979 and 1980. In 1980 its major economic and technical standards reached or even surpassed required standards. The same year they adopted 2,184 technical innovations, 25 of major significance, which won a number of government citations and awards. By contrast, there were only 707 shipyard technical innovations in 1977. All this would have been impossible without the training courses for workers and staffs.

An Expanding Technical Force

With technical personnel accounting for 10.6 per cent of all workers and staffs, the Dalian Machine Tool Plant has one of the city's largest technical contingents, thanks to its efforts over the past several years to train technical personnel from among the workers. Of the plant's 574 engineers and technicians, 218 were trained from among the workers and staff members, accounting for 38 per cent of the total.

Xu Hezhao, 45, had only a junior high school education before he began spare-time study of machine-building 14 years ago. In 1970 he entered the worker college run by the plant. He graduated two years later and now works in the plant's automation research institute.



Designer Xu Hezhao.

When I arrived at the institute, his colleagues vied with each other to tell me about him. Xu Hezhao has in his 11 years as a designer played a key role in designing 52 pieces of machine tool and three automatic production lines. He is particularly good at applying what he has learnt to develop new techniques. An automatic production line he designed for the Luoyang Tractor Plant had increased its productivity fourfold.

Worker-technicians like Xu

Hezhao who matured through the plant's worker training programmes last year alone introduced a total of 214 technical innovations, which yielded something like 780,000 yuan in value. One of them has been promoted to director of the design department, nine have become chief designers and 200 have become the backbone force in various workshops.

I met 35-year-old Lin Lecai in the riveting and welding workshop. He entered the worker college with a junior high school education, but after graduation became the leader of his workshop's technical group.

With the skills gained in his courses, he improved production of a certain spare part by combining the three procedures of material-feeding, shaping and quenching into a single step. In this way he not only saved raw

material and improved quality, but also raised work efficiency sixfold and alleviated labour intensity. Applying newly learnt principles of higher mathematics, Lin also improved the way bicycle brake gears were produced and work efficiency rose fivefold as a result.

"In the past, I sort of groped about blindly in my job," said this smiling, good-natured man. "I wasted too much raw material and too much time. Now I can calculate solutions to problems. Spare-time study has helped me a lot." He told me that he was still studying higher mathematics and theoretical mechanics so that he could do a better job in the future. "I'd like to continue our technical innovations step by step so that some day we can get rid of all the backwardness in our workshop," he said.

A Worker University

THE Dalian Worker University is housed in a former exhibition centre. According to Director Liu of the university's administration office, 1,200 workers and technicians now study here. The university has four colleges affiliated to it.

Set up in 1979, the university has 11 classes in seven departments: automation, machine-building, health and medicine, Chinese, computer science, industrial chemistry and foreign languages. The students were chosen after exams taken by 3,000 workers and staff members from the city's 37 industrial bureaus and enterprises. Some of them study here on a full time basis, some on a part-work, part-study basis, and some come during their spare time.

Last year, 200 students graduated from the university's two-year training courses in Japanese and English. With the increase in trade and exchanges between China and other countries, the training of people capable of speaking, reading and writing in foreign languages has become an urgent matter. Another 100 students studying traditional Chinese medicine will soon graduate and become registered medics. "Our students study hard and abide by discipline because they know their chances of study do not come easily," said Director Liu.

Besides intensive studies, the students also take part in physical training and other recreational activities. The university pays careful attention to student health.

Most Conscientious Students

Worker-students in the spare-time classes have been praised as the "most conscientious students in the university." When I got to know them, I could only agree.

Chen Yaoguang, 36, majors in radio in the automation department. He suffers from chronic rheumatism and is hunchbacked and dependent on crutches. His difficulty in getting about inspires profound sympathy in whoever sees him. He works in a school-run factory. His handicap had deprived him of several chances for university, so he was thrilled to be able to enrol in the worker university in 1979.

Every day after eight hours of work, he hurries to class. Getting on board a bus and climbing stairs are both great ordeals for him, especially in rain and snow. Even the bumping of the bus hurts. However, he has managed a perfect attendance record in his two years of schooling.

What made him so single-minded? He told me: "I want to study because as a man I can't spend my days fooling around. I should make full use of my mind, the only healthy part of me, so that I can do my share for my country."



Chen Yaoguang reviewing lessons at home



The Dalian Worker University

Sun Degin, a thin and petite 34-year-old sanatorium nurse, studies in the medical department. Everyday she has to travel 30 kilometres from the sanatorium to the university. More often than not she has to make use of the 40 minutes on the train to review her lessons.

Shortly after she enrolled she gave birth to a child, and was in poor health afterwards. Concerned people tried to persuade her to quit, but she refused: "I believed I could stick it out. I have lots of questions in my job which I don't know why, so I've got to study to get the answers."

She told me that she often sits down with a book in one hand and a bell in the other to amuse and quiet her seven-month-old baby. She has strong support from her illiterate mother, who has taken on all the household chores. Her husband and his two sisters-in-law are also spare-time worker-students, and at night the whole family settles down to study. "My family is a small worker university itself," said Sun proudly.

Xu Kaijian, an electrician at the No. 6 Plastics Plant, had

only a primary school education, and so failed at several technical innovations he attempted. With a strong desire for knowledge, he became a spare-time radio student at the worker university.

He studied very hard, and hardly a year after he enrolled, he succeeded in improving the operating efficiency of an electromagnetic iron which had been giving his plant a lot of trouble. For this he was commended and awarded by the plant. Now he is working on a project to conserve energy and has made much headway

What has prompted these ordinary workers to study so hard in their spare time even after long eight-hour work days? The answer is not hard to find. They want to live up to their jobs and make up for the inadequacies in education and time lost during the 10-year turmoil of the "cultural revolution." A watchword chalked in red on a blackboard at the worker university seems to say it all: "A man without learning is like a flower without fragrance."

Dedicated Teachers

The worker university has 15 full-time teachers and 77 part-time ones, 80 per cent of whom lecture at formal universities and colleges.

A lecturer from the Institute of Railway Engineering, 43-year-old Zeng Zhongning teaches physics to spare-time students at the worker university. He is a strong supporter of the school: "It has provided not only learning opportunities for workers but also an outlet for university teachers who are eager to pass on their knowledge in their spare time."

He said that what costs the regular university millions of yuan can be done by the worker university for at most 300,000 yuan, thus saving a lot of money. Beyond this, spare-time education is conducive to raising the cultural level of the nation as a whole.

The teachers were visibly excited whenever they talked about their students. Sun Yu-

xian, who came from the mathematics department of the Dalian Engineering Institute, told me: "Most of the students in my chemistry class are women. Many are mothers, and some are in mid- or late

ed to come because the worker university is far from where he works and he was not sure the students would show up. He finally made it to the university and was surprised to find his whole class there, despite



Veteran workers at study.

thirties. But they know what they've come for."

He recalled the time a big snow-storm had struck the afternoon before a scheduled class. Sun himself had hesitat-

ed to come because the worker university is far from where he works and he was not sure the students would show up. He finally made it to the university and was surprised to find his whole class there, despite the bad weather. Many had started for class two hours ago. Some had asked permission to leave work ahead of time. Some came despite health problems. But they all came. He told me, "Never before have I seen students so eager to learn. I would feel guilty if I didn't try my best to teach them."

The teachers have organized themselves into research groups to improve the quality of their teaching. They mark homework with care and help students outside of class free of charge. Regular institutes of higher learning in Dalian have also helped by lending their laboratories to the worker university. All this has paid off: Though the exams are given at levels equivalent to that of the regular colleges, most of the students pass them with good grades.



Worker university students working at a regular university laboratory.

Relationship Between Heavy and Light Industries

DURING the last few years of readjustment of the national economy, the output of consumer goods has increased rapidly and the ratio between light and heavy industries has been altered. The output of light industry now accounts for 50.4 per cent of the total industrial output value as against 42.7 per cent in 1978; heavy industry fell from 57.3 to 49.6 per cent.

What is the proper ratio between light and heavy industries for China? In the major industrialized countries like West Germany, France and Britain in the 1970s, the proportion of heavy industrial output to the total ranged from 60 to 70 per cent. Before the economic readjustment, the proportion in China was 57.3 per cent which by comparison is not high.

Why then was there the need for a readjustment? Because China's industrial foundation is different. Before 1978 heavy industry developed too fast, absorbing a large investment, while light industry grew slowly and received insufficient investment. This unevenness was manifested in their productive capacities. There was overproduction in heavy industry while light industry had inadequate productive capacity. Much heavy industrial equipment was left idle while most light industrial machinery was made to run above its capacity. Further, some light industrial plants had been obsolete. The imbalance was also manifested in the excessive equipment for heavy industry and inadequate equip-

ment for light industry. Overall, the productive forces of heavy industry were excessive and those of light industry were insufficient.

At present, the proportion of heavy industry to the nation's

total has returned to the 1965 level and it should not be further adjusted. From now on, the emphasis of the readjustment should be placed on the internal relationship of heavy industry and on that of light industry.

(Excerpts from "Shijie Jingji Daobao" [World Economic Herald], 1981.)

Equality Before the Law

The principle "everybody is equal before the law" was labelled as "lack of a class viewpoint" and "equivalent to advocating equality for counter-revolutionaries" and it was criticized during China's "cultural revolution." After October 1976 when China entered a new historical period of development, some jurists reaffirmed this principle. Subsequent discussions on it have been published in the nation's newspapers and periodicals. Now, while the legal profession has reached a consensus that "everybody is equal before the law," its members differ on the meaning of this principle. There are two main positions.

One viewpoint is: "Everybody is equal before the law" refers to equality in the judicial process, not the legislative process.

Those holding this opinion maintain that judicature is different from legislation. In China, although the exploiting classes have been eliminated as classes, the remnants of these classes, counter-revolutionaries, and criminals still exist. Although these elements constitute

only a handful, if the principle that "everybody is equal before the law" is included in the legislative process, if their wishes and interests are embodied in laws, then the nature of the law will be changed. Therefore, in the legislative process, we cannot talk about "everybody is equal." As a matter of fact, those listed above have no right to take a direct or indirect part in it. In judicial matters, everybody is equal. So long as citizens abide by laws, they should receive equal protection, and if they commit a crime, they should be punished according to the provisions of the law. In the legislative process, however, "everybody is equal" refers only to the people, not including the enemy. "People," which is a political concept, has had several meanings in China's different historical periods. For example, during the period of the new-democratic revolution before the founding of New China, "people" referred to China's working class, peasantry, urban petty bourgeoisie and national bourgeoisie; not the people's enemies — the landlord class, bureaucrat-capitalists and the Kuomintang reactionaries who

represented the interests of these classes. "Citizen" is a legal concept. All those who possess China's nationality are citizens and enjoy the rights and undertake the duties as stipulated by China's Constitution and laws.

The second opinion argues: "Everybody is equal before the law" is an important legal principle and should be fully reflected in legislation, judicature and other respects. The implementation of laws flows from their formulation; so unless "everybody is equal" in the legislative process, there cannot be equality in the judicial process. The stipulations in China's Constitution that all nationalities are equal and that men and women are equal demonstrate that in the legislative process all citizens have the right to take a direct or indirect part in making laws. The laws thus embody citizens' democratic rights and the principle of equality.

Two important theoretical problems arose during the discussions. How was one to understand equality from the Marxist point of view and how to adhere to the basic Marxist principle that laws have a class nature.

In its struggle against feudal autocracy, the bourgeoisie demanded equality centred around the abolition of class' privileges. The proletariat also put forward its demand for equality, i.e., the elimination of classes. The demands for equal rights raised by the bourgeoisie referred mainly to the contention that citizens of the country who had reached a certain age enjoy equal political rights, including the right to participate in the legislative process. In reality, so long as private own-

ership exists and the bourgeoisie is in the ruling position, it is impossible for the proletariat to equally take part in the running of the country with the bourgeoisie.

After the working class and the people seize political power, a fundamental change takes place. The genuine equal rights of the exploiters who account for only a handful of the population is changed into genuine equal rights of the working people who make up the overwhelming majority. The full realization of equal rights for all citizens must be based on the elimination of classes in the future.

In close connection with this is the class nature of law. If we say that "everybody is equal" in the legislative process at the

present stage, it would mean to negate the class nature of law. According to the basic Marxist theory of the science of law and in the light of China's current conditions, we cannot deny that China's laws have a class nature. They represent the will and interests of the working class and the people, and not those who are hostile to socialism. It is thus clear that the phrase "everybody is equal" cannot be interpreted to include the legislative process.

The discussion on the principle that "everybody is equal before the law" has been beneficial to the development of China's socialist legal system and the study of the science of law.

(Excerpts from "Renmin Ribao," August 31, 1981.)

A Woman Historian

BAN Zhao (49-120 A.D.), the first woman historian in China, exerted a profound influence on and made important contributions to the study of history. She was a prolific writer and was well versed in history, literature and political affairs.

Her father Ban Biao and elder brothers Ban Gu and Ban Chao were all learned scholars of history and military affairs. Family influence and her own hard work made her a brilliant academic with an inflexible disposition.

In 92, A.D., her elder brother Ban Gu was imprisoned for political reasons and died. She courageously

took up the task of writing and revising the *Han Shu* (The History of the Han Dynasty) which her father and elder brother had worked on for many years but left unfinished. She completed this work and thus bestowed posterity with much valuable documentation.

Because of her high prestige, when she died the empress dowager mourned her death and held a state funeral for her. That a woman was so honoured was rare in Chinese history.

(Excerpts from "Renmin," [Personages], a bimonthly, No. 4, 1981.)

SURGERY

**Symposium on
Cardiothoracic Surgery**

A Beijing symposium on cardiothoracic surgery was held at the Science Hall from September 20 to 24. About 200 surgeons from China and seven foreign countries attended.

The conference was jointly sponsored by the Surgical Society of the Chinese Medical Association and the Lyman A. Brewer III International Society of Surgery of the United States. The organizing committee of the symposium was co-chaired by Huang Jiasi, a leading Chinese chest surgeon, and Prof. Lyman A. Brewer, a physician of the veterans administration hospital in Loma Linda, California.

Qian Xinzhong, Minister of Public Health said in his opening address that this symposium would promote exchange of ideas, raise the scientific level of this work and strengthen friendship. He continued that in China, as in many countries, cardiovascular diseases and cancer have become the most common causes of death. Therefore cardiothoracic surgery has received increasing attention. Mass surveys for cancer of the oesophagus and early treatment of it have yielded a higher rate of cure. In recent years, China has trained a number of specialists in treating congenital heart diseases. Valve replacements, resectioning of aneurysms, coronary artery bypass surgery, prosthesis and neonatal cardiovascular surgery are also in practice.

Huang Jiasi, president of the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and head of the Shou-

du Medical College, said cardiothoracic surgery was a late-comer to the field of medicine but its development has been rapid. What were considered forbidden areas for surgery in the past have been conquered. But problems still exist. For example, the mortality rate for some operations is still too high and post operative management not scientific enough. Cardiothoracic surgery started even later in China. During the "cultural revolution" the gap widened between China and other countries. But "we will do our best to contribute our share to this field," he declared.

Prof. Lyman A. Brewer said that this meeting "presents a rare opportunity to cement international relationships and friendship." He went on, "It is our hope that out of this meeting we will return to our respective hospitals and medical schools with a new dedication to further these vital international co-operative relationships."

A total of 58 papers were presented at the symposium, 17 by Chinese surgeons. Prof. Xin Yuling of the Beijing Institute of Tuberculosis delivered a report about the practices of his institute where, over the last 16 years, 1,200 lung operations have been performed using acupuncture anesthesia with a success rate of 96 per cent.

Man With Half a Brain

The case of a 31-year-old man who had his right cerebral hemisphere removed 15 years ago is being followed closely by the No. 1 Hospital attached to the Kunming Medical College. The man, who wishes

to remain anonymous, has been working as a warehouseman at a factory in Yunnan for the past three years.

He suffered from epilepsy at the age of three and his left side was later paralysed. He was admitted into the No. 1 hospital in March 1966 when he was 16. Electroencephalograms revealed that his right cerebral hemisphere was functioning abnormally. After failing to control the condition with medication, the doctors performed a brain operation to remove the right cerebral hemisphere. After the operation, the epileptic seizures occurred only once every two months and his disposition improved.

In September last year, the hospital in co-operation with the Institute of Psychology gave the patient a comprehensive examination. Although his brain functions are impaired in certain non-linguist functions, for example, sensory and spatial perceptions, there is no impairment in his perception and memory of colours, music, people and surroundings. The examiners concluded that his left hemisphere has taken over some of the former functions of the right. This young man is able to engage in simple work and perform daily activities normally.

ARCHAEOLOGY

**Primitive Village Site
Uncovered**

Three recently completed archaeological tests date a primitive village site uncovered in China last year at about 7,000 years old.

The testing determined that the 1,330-square-metre site ex-

cavated between November 1979 and January 1980 in Zhejiang Province is among the oldest New Stone Age finds in China in recent years.

Archaeologists in charge of the excavation have concluded that the site was inhabited by a clan society that grew rice, built dwellings and domesticated animals. The archaeologists estimate that the society belonged to the early stage of the Majiabing culture, judging by the characteristics of some pottery, such as cauldrons with raised lines along the centre, ewers with solid feet and jars with handles shaped like ox noses.

New Stone Age cultures Majiabing and Hemudu, named after the locations where they were first discovered, were both characterized by unique pottery styles and rice farming.

Both were also first found in Zhejiang Province — Majiabing in 1959 and Hemudu in 1973.

Among the finds at last year's excavation at Luojiajiao in Tongxiang County were white pottery vessels impressed with fine patterns on their outer walls, which may provide clues to the origin and development of Chinese pottery and porcelain.

Other remains included 53 pits; a number of wooden structural parts fitted together with tenon and mortise; more than 700 artifacts made of stone, bone and pottery; nearly 5,000 pottery shards; 1,000 kg of animal bones; and several hundred grains of two types of non-glutinous rice (*xian* and *geng*).

The animal bones included oxen, pigs, dogs and 11 other species that are usually domesticated and bred.

The area first came to the government's attention in 1956 when local peasants unearthed

100,000 kg of animal bones in Luojiajiao. The expanse of hillocks and rice paddies there was later listed as a protected area until the excavation could begin. The village was found at the fourth cultural layer.

A reed stalk from a pit at the site was tested with the Carbon 14 dating method by the Institute of Archaeology of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and by the archaeology specialty of the History Department of Beijing University.

The Laboratory for Scientific and Technological Protection of Relics at Shanghai Museum performed a thermo-luminescent dating of a pottery shard.

Each examination placed the age of the site at around 7,000 years.

Zhejiang Province is on the lower reaches of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River basin. The increasing number of archaeological finds in that area indicates that like the Huanghe (Yellow) River valley, the Changjiang River valley was also a cradle of Chinese civilization.

GLASS SCIENCE

International Symposium

The international symposium on glass science sponsored by the Chinese Silicate Society was held from August 25 to 28 in Beijing. Thirty-five specialists from Britain, France, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, the Soviet Union, the United States and West Germany as well as 82 from China participated. The meeting reviewed some 70 papers on the physical properties of glass, its structure and forming process, the new types of glass, and manufacturing technology.

Professor Gan Fuxi reported

that since the founding of New China, glass research has been carried out and various types of glass have been produced. Chinese scholars, Gan continued, have carried out some basic research on the properties of optics, mechanics and electricity.

Now in China a computer data bank has been developed for calculating automatically the physical properties of various kinds of glass and designing glass composition to meet specifications. This has put an end to the backward practice of glass-making by trial and error.

In addition, the microcrystalline glass with a diameter of 2.3 metres and an optical-melted quartz glass with a diameter of one metre have been produced for telescopes. Many other types of glass up to advanced world level also have been made.

After some 10 years of research and testing, Professor Gan said, China has succeeded in developing the floating method for plate glass production and is spreading the use of this technology throughout the country. The 1980 annual output of plate glass was 26 million standard boxes.

American Professor John D. Mackenzie stated in a paper that since the 1970s, more attention in the world has been paid to metal glass, oxidic and non-oxidic glass and many advances have been made. He predicted that the prospect for glass science is bright.

The glass science is becoming an important scientific endeavour. It utilizes firmware physics, quantum chemistry, and other advanced sciences. It will contribute greatly to modern industry.

CORRECTION: In our last issue (No. 10), the 16th line in the left-hand column on page 11 should be inverted.

Chinese Ethnic Groups

China's National Minorities (in Chinese)

《中国少数民族》

Published by People's Publishing House,
Renminbi: 8.00 yuan.

China's National Minorities is the most comprehensive and up-to-date volume on China's 55 minority nationalities. In the 25-page introduction, the overall situation of minorities in China is sketched briefly, including the policy of the state and the Party towards them. The introduction also reviews the historical progress and achievements made in this field since 1949. This concise introduction thus provides an appropriate beginning to this authoritative work.

The heart of the book is divided into five sections—Northeast; Northwest; Southwest; Central South; and Southeast. Each of China's minority nationalities is introduced separately. Their population, origins, distribution, histories, cultural traditions and social customs are systematically recounted. The particular characteristics of each minority nationality is presented in detail.

Starting in 1956, firsthand investigation was carried out as to the social and historical conditions of the minorities, and brief histories of some nationalities were subsequently published. In 1979, a nationwide exhibition on Chinese nationalities was held. The present work is based on the data collected for that exhibit.

The authors utilized up-to-date information from relevant

social science research, recent archaeological finds, and articles by Chinese and foreign scholars. For instance, the existence of Gaoshan nationality in Taiwan, formerly could only be traced back to the later period of the Neolithic Age some 4,000 years ago. Now using research of Taiwan scholars, its origins can be traced to the Palaeolithic Age tens of thousands of years ago, thus showing ancient cultural contact between Taiwan and the rest of China. In the chapter on the Uygur nationality in northwest China, material is included on the archaeological finds of 1977 in Shufu County, the westmost point where relics of the Neolithic Age have been discovered in China.

The parts on the Monba and Loba nationalities in the Tibet Autonomous Region are entirely

based on the field research conducted in the last few years.

This book, while being too general in some respect, successfully provides a wide range of knowledge and reflects the current standard of Chinese scholarship about the nationalities.

China's National Minorities was edited by the State Nationalities Affairs Commission. It is a reference book that will be useful for many years. It totals 590 pages and has over 200 pictures. Included as appendixes are charts showing the languages of different nationalities and ethnic composition of all national autonomous areas. A map depicting the distribution of China's nationalities is also included. On the cover are colour pictures of members of the 13 large national minorities and the title written in six languages spoken in China.

—Zhang Ru

Recollections of

THE REVOLUTION OF 1911

WU YUZHANG

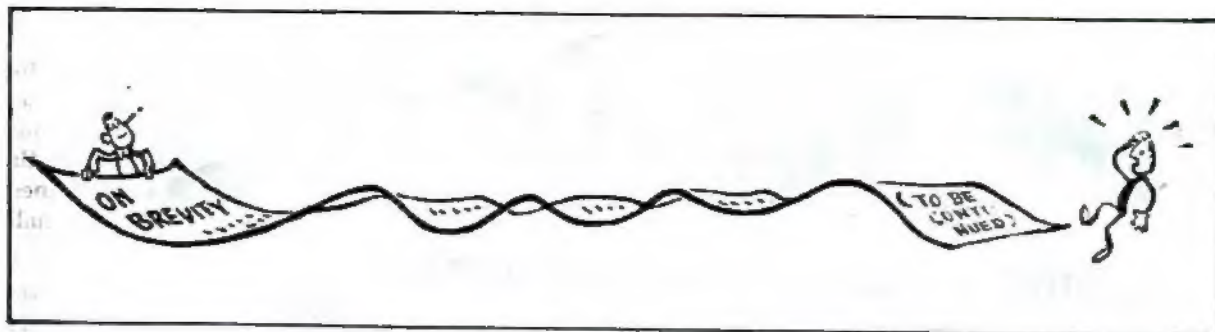


eventual failure? What part did the people play in this revolution? This book will help the reader to have a deeper understanding of this momentous revolution in China's history.

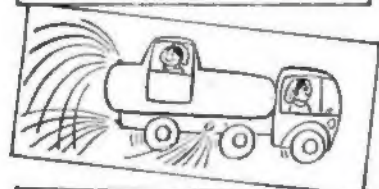
The Revolution of 1911 was a bourgeois-democratic revolution, which overthrew the feudal system of monarchy in China. Wu Yuzhang, author of this book, who was a Member of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, personally took part in this revolution. In this book he puts down his own fighting experience, and analyses the revolution with keen insight and the aid of a rich fund of material. His answers to the following questions are especially instructive: Why did the revolution break out? What were the causes of its achievements and

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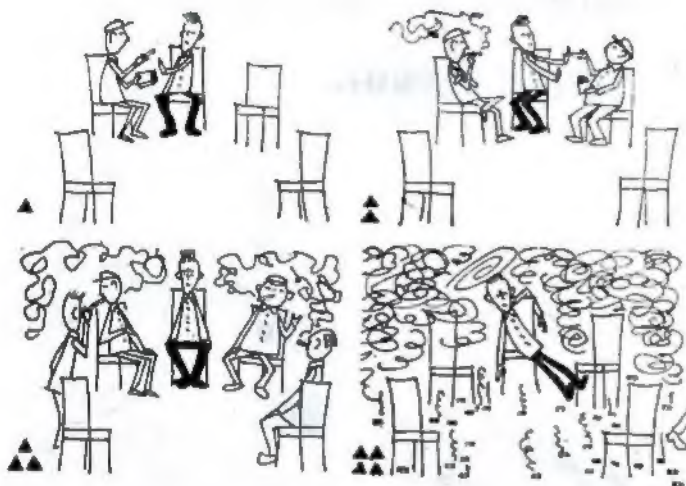


- Liu Qingdao



Black and White.

- Mao Fonglan



Smoking room or conference room?

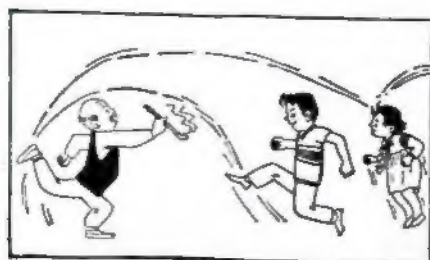
- Tian Yuan

Humour In China

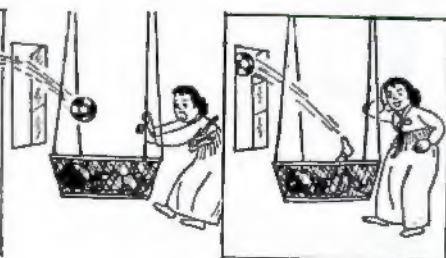


Showering praises.

- Chen Shubin



A family of footballers.



- Qin Fengguan

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